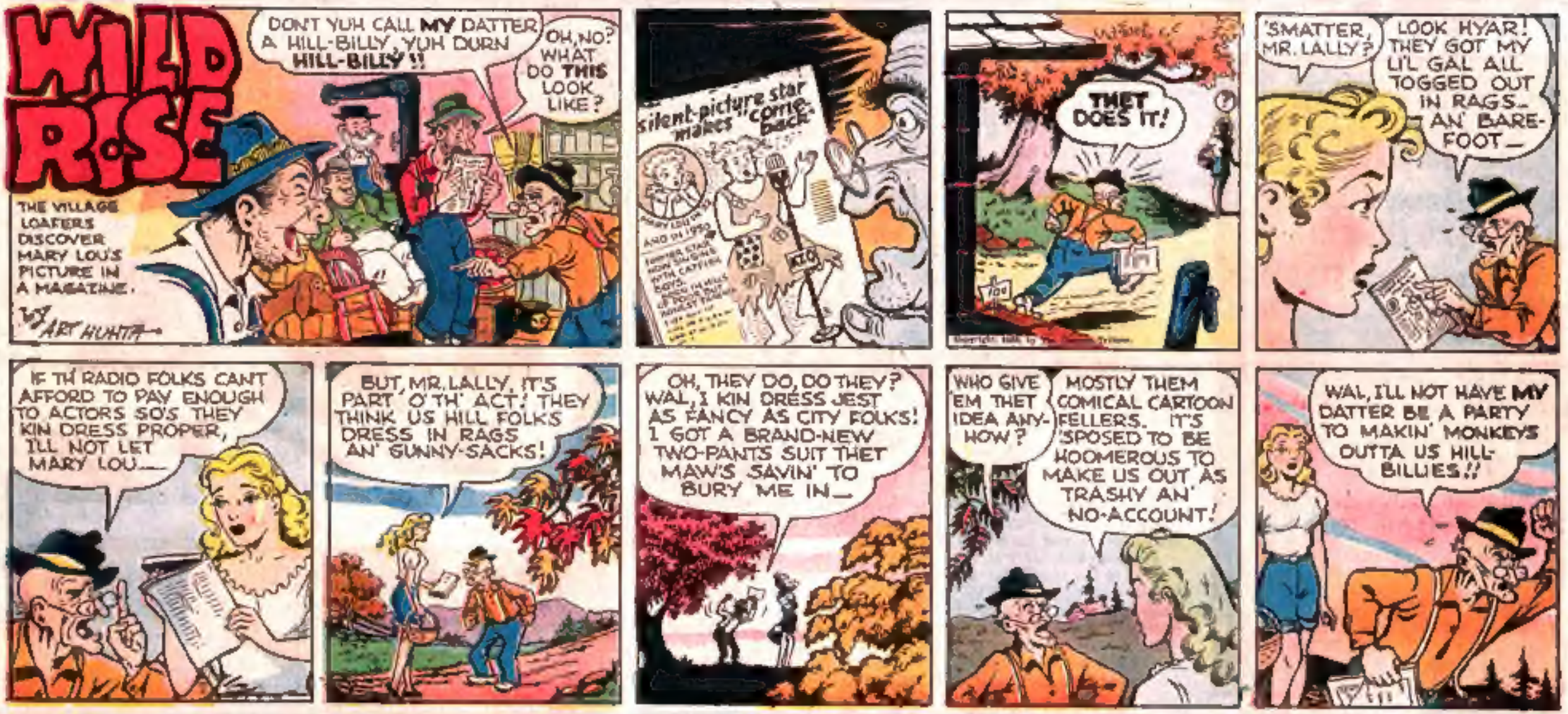
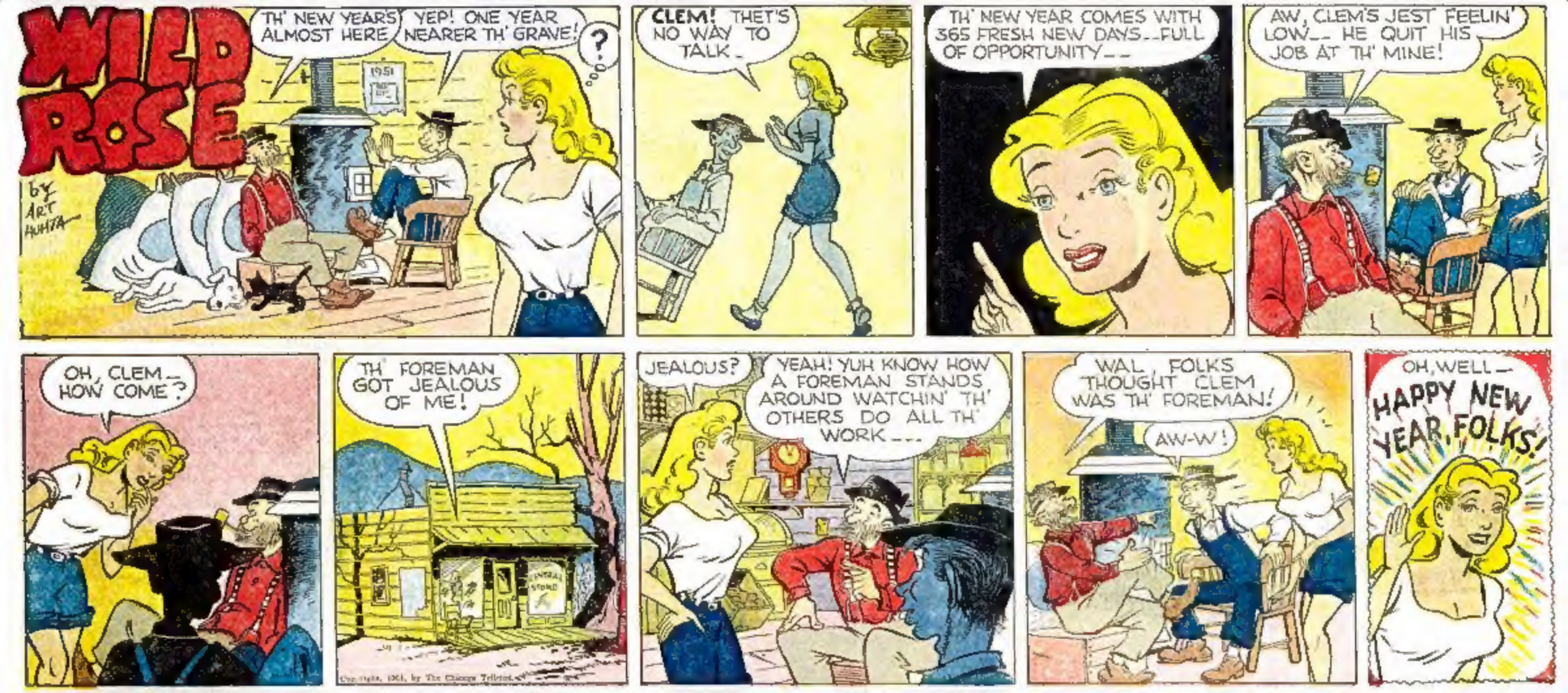
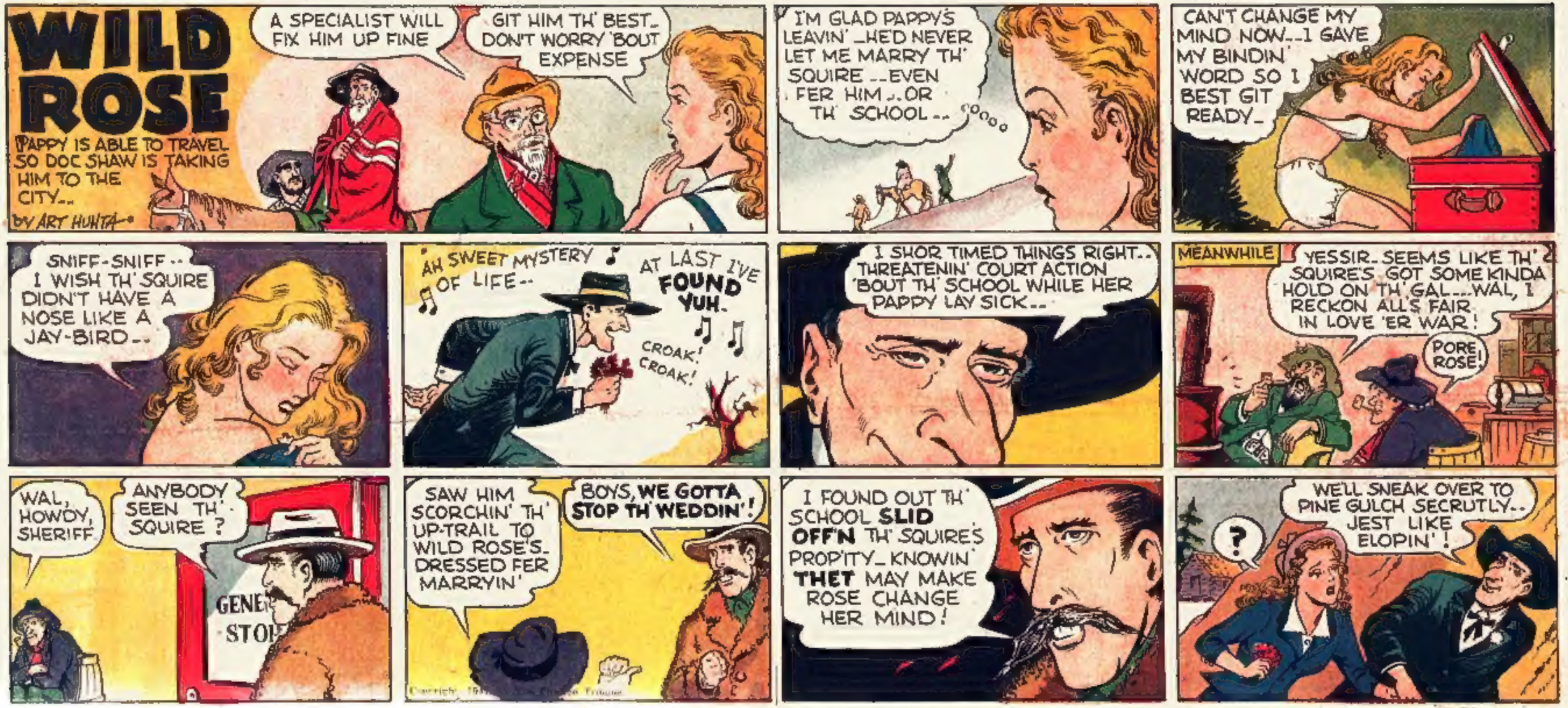
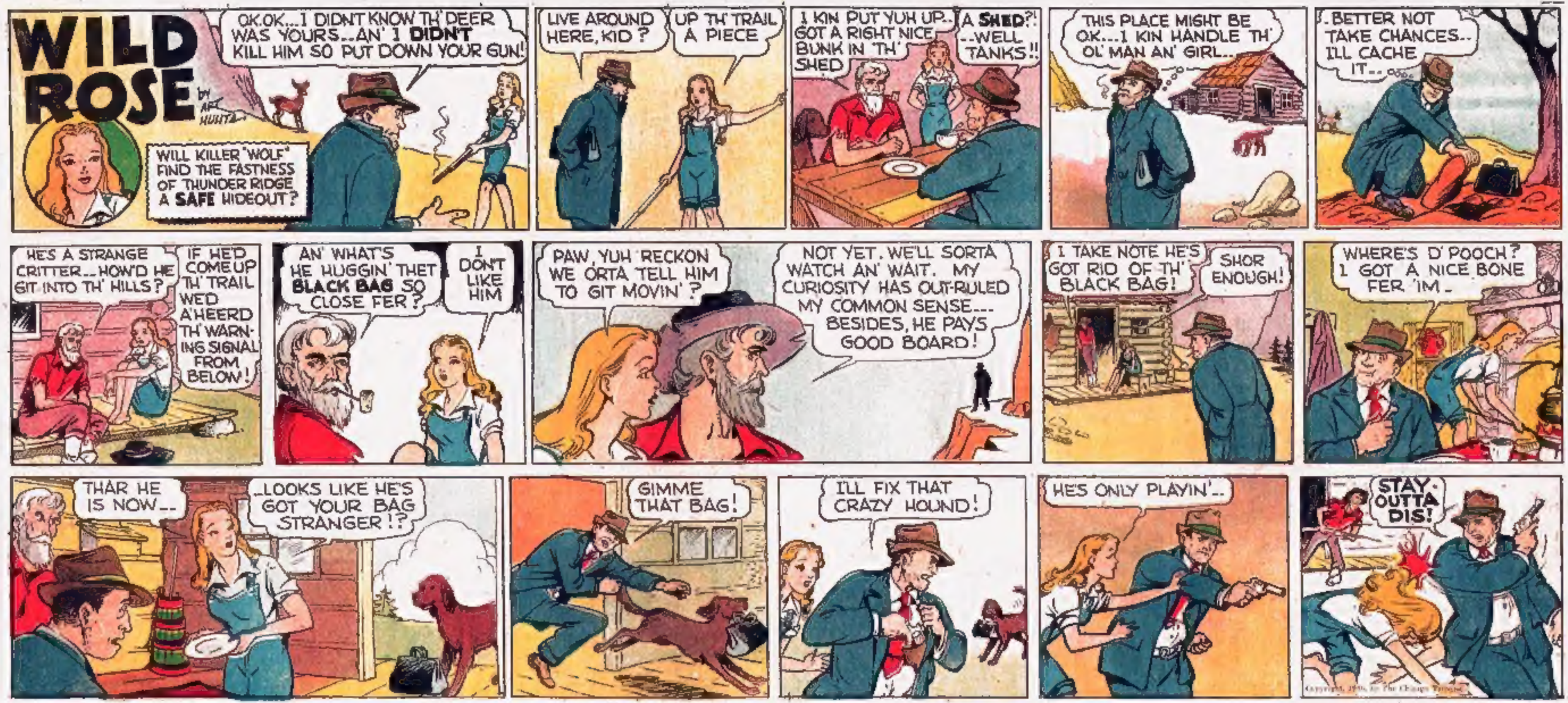
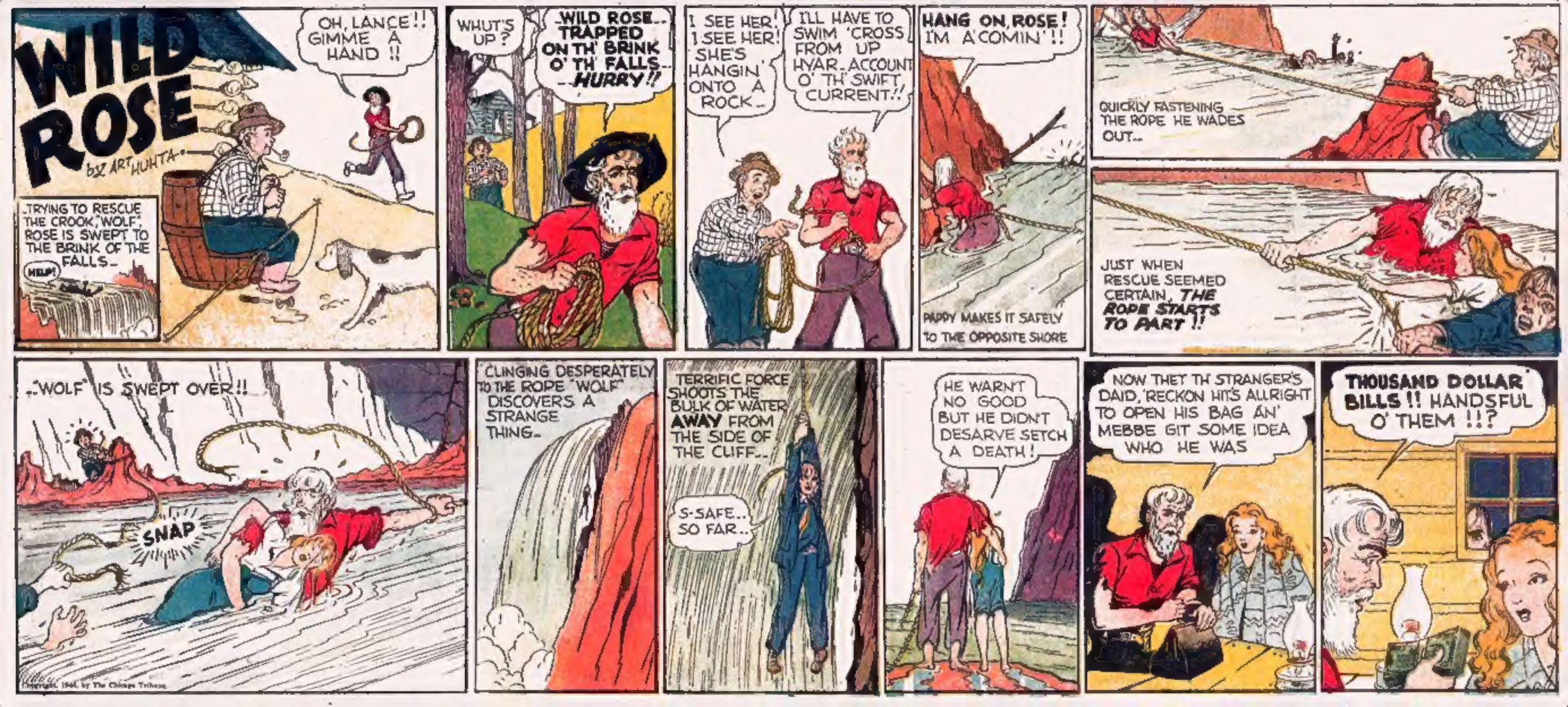

WILD RISE
THE VILLAGE LOAFERS DISCOVER MARY LOU'S PICTURE IN A MAGAZINE.
BY ART HUMPHREYS
DON'T YUH CALL MY DATTER A HILL-BILLY, YUH DURN HILL-BILLY !!
OH, NO? WHAT DO THIS LOOK LIKE?
silent-picture star makes "comeback"
THET DOES IT!
'SMATTER, MR. LALLY?
LOOK HYAR! THEY GOT MY LI'L GAL ALL TOGGED OUT IN RAGS— AN' BARE-FOOT—
IF TH' RADIO FOLKS CAN'T AFFORD TO PAY ENOUGH TO ACTORS SO'S THEY KIN DRESS PROPER, I'LL NOT LET MARY LOU—
BUT, MR. LALLY, IT'S PART O' TH' ACT! THEY THINK US HILL FOLKS DRESS IN RAGS AN' GUNNY-SACKS!
OH, THEY DO, DO THEY? WAL, I KIN DRESS JEST AS FANCY AS CITY FOLKS! I GOT A BRAND-NEW TWO-PANTS SUIT THET MAW'S SAVIN' TO BURY ME IN—
WHO GIVE 'EM THET IDEA ANY-HOW?
MOSTLY THEM COMICAL CARTOON FELLERS. IT'S 'SPOSED TO BE HOOMEROUS TO MAKE US OUT AS TRASHY AN' NO-ACCOUNT!
WAL, I'LL NOT HAVE MY DATTER BE A PARTY TO MAKIN' MONKEYS OUTTA US HILL-BILLIES!!

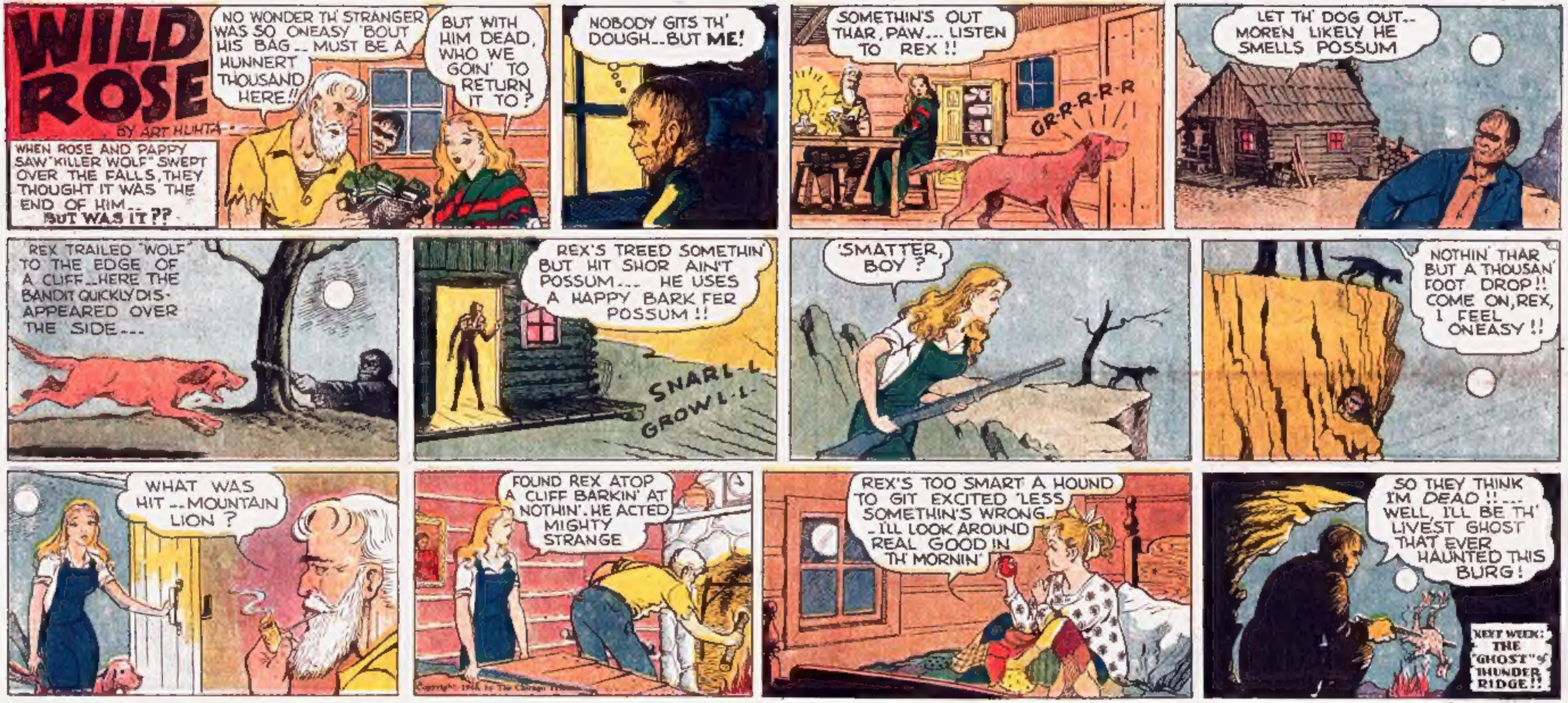

WILD ROSE
by ART HUHTA
TH' NEW YEARS ALMOST HERE
YEP! ONE YEAR NEARER TH' GRAVE!
?
1951
CLEM! THET'S NO WAY TO TALK.
TH' NEW YEAR COMES WITH 365 FRESH NEW DAYS--FULL OF OPPORTUNITY--
AW, CLEM'S JEST FEELIN' LOW-- HE QUIT HIS JOB AT TH' MINE!
OH, CLEM-- HOW COME?
TH' FOREMAN GOT JEALOUS OF ME!
GENERAL STORE
JEALOUS?
YEAH! YUH KNOW HOW A FOREMAN STANDS AROUND WATCHIN' TH' OTHERS DO ALL TH' WORK---
WAL, FOLKS THOUGHT CLEM WAS TH' FOREMAN!
AW-W!
OH, WELL-- HAPPY NEW YEAR, FOLKS!

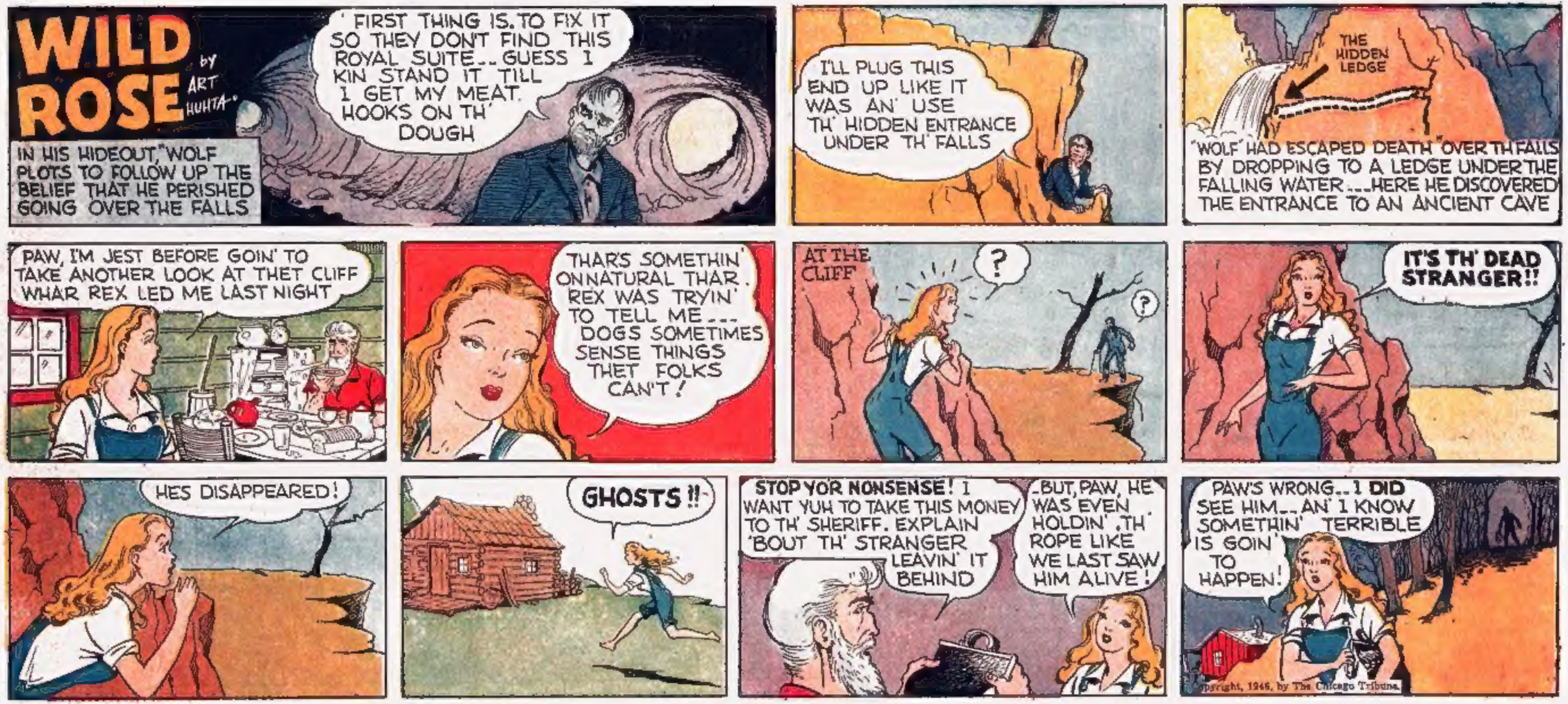

WILD ROSE
PAPPY IS ABLE TO TRAVEL SO DOC SHAW IS TAKING HIM TO THE CITY...
BY ART HUHTA
A SPECIALIST WILL FIX HIM UP FINE
GIT HIM TH' BEST_ DON'T WORRY 'BOUT EXPENSE
I'M GLAD PAPPY'S LEAVIN' _HE'D NEVER LET ME MARRY TH' SQUIRE --EVEN FER HIM_..OR TH' SCHOOL --
CAN'T CHANGE MY MIND NOW--I GAVE MY BINDIN' WORD SO I BEST GIT READY_
SNIFF-SNIFF -- I WISH TH' SQUIRE DIDN'T HAVE A NOSE LIKE A JAY-BIRD --
AH SWEET MYSTERY OF LIFE--
AT LAST I'VE FOUND YUH_
CROAK! CROAK!
I SHOR TIMED THINGS RIGHT-- THREATENIN' COURT ACTION 'BOUT TH' SCHOOL WHILE HER PAPPY LAY SICK--
MEANWHILE
YESSIR_ SEEMS LIKE TH' SQUIRE'S GOT SOME KINDA HOLD ON TH' GAL--WAL, I RECKON ALL'S FAIR IN LOVE 'ER WAR!
PORE ROSE!
WAL, HOWDY, SHERIFF
ANYBODY SEEN TH' SQUIRE ?
SAW HIM SCORCHIN' TH' UP-TRAIL TO WILD ROSE'S_ DRESSED FER MARRYIN'
BOYS, WE GOTTA STOP TH' WEDDIN'!
I FOUND OUT TH' SCHOOL SLID OFF'N TH' SQUIRE'S PROP'ITY_ KNOWIN' THET MAY MAKE ROSE CHANGE HER MIND!
?
WE'LL SNEAK OVER TO PINE GULCH SECRUTLY-- JEST LIKE ELOPIN'!

WILD ROSE
OF THUNDER RIDGE
by ART HUNTA
WAL, ELMER GREENE FOUND HIS WAY BACK FROM TH' CITY.. HE'S SPOUTIN' OFF DOWN T' GEN'RUL STORE
DO TELL!
ELMER AINT GOT MUCH SENSE BUT HE SHOR GITS AROUND
GOODNESS!! LOOKIT TH' CROWD!
SHOR 'NOUGH.. THARS TH' OL' WIND-BAG!
DONT GIT TO TOWN VERY OFTEN-BUT WHEN I DO-- ROW-DE-DOW!! NICKEL HERE AN' A NICKEL THERE---
..WHY, FIFTY CENTS WASN'T NOTHIN' TO SPEND ON A SATURDAY NIGHT..
AN' IN TH' STORES THEY GOT STEPS THET RUN UP AN' DOWN BY THEMSELVES.. "SPECULATORS" THEY CALL 'EM..
OH, I TELL YOU.. THAR'S EXCITEMENT IN TH' CITY
MUST BE WONDERFUL IN TH' CITY. NOTHIN' EXCITIN' EVER HAPPENS IN THUNDER RIDGE!!
LITTLE DOES WILD ROSE REALIZE THE HARROWING EXPERIENCES IN STORE FOR HER AS A PLANE WINGS IT'S WAY TOWARD THUNDER RIDGE!
OUGHTA REACH MOUNTAIN COUNTRY BY SUNRISE
AND SO ONE KILLER WOLF DROPS IN ON THUNDER RIDGE FOLKS!
NOW TO DITCH TH' 'CHUTE'
LONESOME PLACE ALLRIGHT. PERFECT FER A HIDEOUT!
WHATTA YA KNOW...?!! FRESH MEAT!
TENDER TOO, I'LL BET--IT'S A BABY DEER--
KLINK!
SORRY TO KNOCK TH' GUN OUT'N YOR HANDS, STRANGER--BUT HIT LOOKED LIKE YUH WAS FIXIN' TO SHOOT MY PET
TO BE CONTINUED


WILD ROSE
by ART HUNTER
WILL KILLER "WOLF" FIND THE FASTNESS OF THUNDER RIDGE A SAFE HIDEOUT?
O.K.O.K...I DIDN'T KNOW TH' DEER WAS YOURS...AN' I DIDN'T KILL HIM SO PUT DOWN YOUR GUN!
LIVE AROUND HERE, KID?
UP TH' TRAIL A PIECE
I KIN PUT YUH UP.. GOT A RIGHT NICE BUNK IN 'TH' SHED
A SHED?! ..WELL TANKS!!
THIS PLACE MIGHT BE O.K....I KIN HANDLE TH' OL' MAN AN' GIRL..
..BETTER NOT TAKE CHANCES.. I'LL CACHE IT...
HE'S A STRANGE CRITTER...HOW'D HE GIT INTO TH' HILLS?
IF HE'D COME UP TH' TRAIL WE'D A'HEERD TH' WARNING SIGNAL FROM BELOW!
AN' WHAT'S HE HUGGIN' THET BLACK BAG SO CLOSE FER?
I DON'T LIKE HIM
PAW, YUH RECKON WE ORTA TELL HIM TO GIT MOVIN'?
NOT YET. WE'LL SORTA WATCH AN' WAIT. MY CURIOSITY HAS OUT-RULED MY COMMON SENSE... BESIDES, HE PAYS GOOD BOARD!
I TAKE NOTE HE'S GOT RID OF TH' BLACK BAG!
SHOR ENOUGH!
WHERE'S D' POOCH? I GOT A NICE BONE FER 'IM.
THAR HE IS NOW...
..LOOKS LIKE HE'S GOT YOUR BAG STRANGER!?
GIMME THAT BAG!
I'LL FIX THAT CRAZY HOUND!
HE'S ONLY PLAYIN'..
STAY OUTTA DIS!


WILD ROSE
by ART HUNTA
OH, LANCE!! GIMME A HAND !!
TRYING TO RESCUE THE CROOK, "WOLF", ROSE IS SWEPT TO THE BRINK OF THE FALLS..
HELP!
WHUT'S UP?
-WILD ROSE.. TRAPPED ON TH' BRINK O' TH' FALLS.. HURRY!!
I SEE HER! I SEE HER! SHE'S HANGIN' ONTO A ROCK..
I'LL HAVE TO SWIM 'CROSS FROM UP HYAR.. ACCOUNT O' TH' SWIFT CURRENT!!
HANG ON, ROSE! I'M A'COMIN'!!
PAPPY MAKES IT SAFELY TO THE OPPOSITE SHORE
QUICKLY FASTENING THE ROPE HE WADES OUT..
JUST WHEN RESCUE SEEMED CERTAIN, THE ROPE STARTS TO PART!!
..."WOLF" IS SWEPT OVER!!
SNAP
CLINGING DESPERATELY TO THE ROPE "WOLF" DISCOVERS A STRANGE THING..
TERRIFIC FORCE SHOOTS THE BULK OF WATER AWAY FROM THE SIDE OF THE CLIFF..
S-SAFE.. SO FAR..
HE WARN'T NO GOOD BUT HE DIDN'T DESARVE SETCH A DEATH!
NOW THET TH' STRANGER'S DAID, 'RECKON HIT'S ALLRIGHT TO OPEN HIS BAG AN' MEBBE GIT SOME IDEA WHO HE WAS
THOUSAND DOLLAR BILLS!! HANDSFUL O' THEM !!?


WILD ROSE
BY ART HUHTA
WHEN ROSE AND PAPPY SAW "KILLER WOLF" SWEPT OVER THE FALLS, THEY THOUGHT IT WAS THE END OF HIM... BUT WAS IT??
NO WONDER TH' STRANGER WAS SO ONEASY 'BOUT HIS BAG -- MUST BE A HUNNERT THOUSAND HERE!!
BUT WITH HIM DEAD, WHO WE GOIN' TO RETURN IT TO?
NOBODY GITS TH' DOUGH--BUT ME!
SOMETHIN'S OUT THAR, PAW.... LISTEN TO REX!!
GR-R-R-R-R
LET TH' DOG OUT-- MOREN LIKELY HE SMELLS POSSUM
REX TRAILED "WOLF" TO THE EDGE OF A CLIFF--HERE THE BANDIT QUICKLY DISAPPEARED OVER THE SIDE...
REX'S TREED SOMETHIN' BUT HIT SHOR AIN'T POSSUM... HE USES A HAPPY BARK FER POSSUM!!
SNARL-L GROWL-L-
'SMATTER, BOY?
NOTHIN' THAR BUT A THOUSAN' FOOT DROP!! COME ON, REX, I FEEL ONEASY!!
WHAT WAS HIT--MOUNTAIN LION?
FOUND REX ATOP A CLIFF BARKIN' AT NOTHIN'. HE ACTED MIGHTY STRANGE
REX'S TOO SMART A HOUND TO GIT EXCITED 'LESS SOMETHIN'S WRONG. I'LL LOOK AROUND REAL GOOD IN TH' MORNIN'
SO THEY THINK I'M DEAD!!... WELL, I'LL BE TH' LIVEST GHOST THAT EVER HAUNTED THIS BURG!
NEXT WEEK: THE "GHOST" OF THUNDER RIDGE!!


WILD ROSE
by ART HUHTA
IN HIS HIDEOUT, "WOLF PLOTS TO FOLLOW UP THE BELIEF THAT HE PERISHED GOING OVER THE FALLS
' FIRST THING IS. TO FIX IT SO THEY DONT FIND THIS ROYAL SUITE... GUESS I KIN STAND IT TILL I GET MY MEAT HOOKS ON TH' DOUGH
I'LL PLUG THIS END UP LIKE IT WAS AN' USE TH' HIDDEN ENTRANCE UNDER TH' FALLS
THE HIDDEN LEDGE
"WOLF" HAD ESCAPED DEATH "OVER TH FALLS BY DROPPING TO A LEDGE UNDER THE FALLING WATER ... HERE HE DISCOVERED THE ENTRANCE TO AN ANCIENT CAVE
PAW, I'M JEST BEFORE GOIN' TO TAKE ANOTHER LOOK AT THET CLIFF WHAR REX LED ME LAST NIGHT
THAR'S SOMETHIN' ONNATURAL THAR. REX WAS TRYIN' TO TELL ME... DOGS SOMETIMES SENSE THINGS THET FOLKS CAN'T!
AT THE CLIFF
?
?
IT'S TH' DEAD STRANGER!!
HES DISAPPEARED!
GHOSTS !!
STOP YOR NONSENSE! I WANT YUH TO TAKE THIS MONEY TO TH' SHERIFF. EXPLAIN 'BOUT TH' STRANGER LEAVIN' IT BEHIND
-BUT, PAW, HE WAS EVEN HOLDIN' TH' ROPE LIKE WE LAST SAW HIM ALIVE!
PAW'S WRONG.. I DID SEE HIM... AN' I KNOW SOMETHIN' TERRIBLE IS GOIN' TO HAPPEN!
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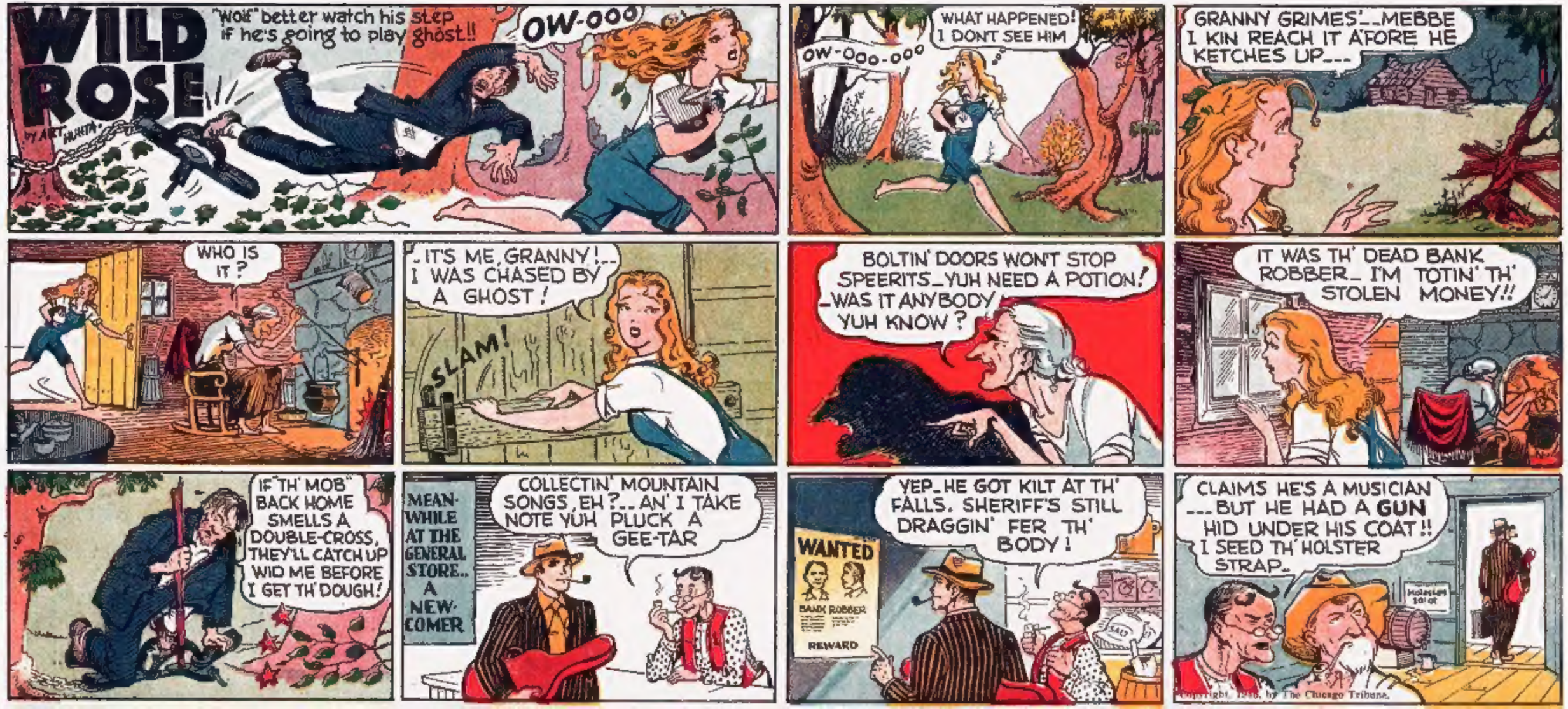
WILD ROSE
BY ART HUNTA
"Wolf" better watch his step if he's going to play ghost!!
OW-OOO
OW-OOO-OOO
WHAT HAPPENED! I DON'T SEE HIM
GRANNY GRIMES'--MEBBE I KIN REACH IT AFORE HE KETCHES UP---
WHO IS IT?
IT'S ME, GRANNY!-- I WAS CHASED BY A GHOST!
SLAM!
BOLTIN' DOORS WON'T STOP SPEERITS_YUH NEED A POTION! _WAS IT ANYBODY YUH KNOW?
IT WAS TH' DEAD BANK ROBBER_ I'M TOTIN' TH' STOLEN MONEY!!
IF TH' MOB" BACK HOME SMELLS A DOUBLE-CROSS, THEY'LL CATCH UP WID ME BEFORE I GET TH' DOUGH!
MEAN-WHILE AT THE GENERAL STORE.. A NEW-COMER
COLLECTIN' MOUNTAIN SONGS, EH?.. AN' I TAKE NOTE YUH PLUCK A GEE-TAR
WANTED
BANK ROBBER
REWARD
YEP_HE GOT KILT AT TH' FALLS. SHERIFF'S STILL DRAGGIN' FER TH' BODY!
CLAIMS HE'S A MUSICIAN ---BUT HE HAD A GUN HID UNDER HIS COAT!! I SEED TH' HOLSTER STRAP_
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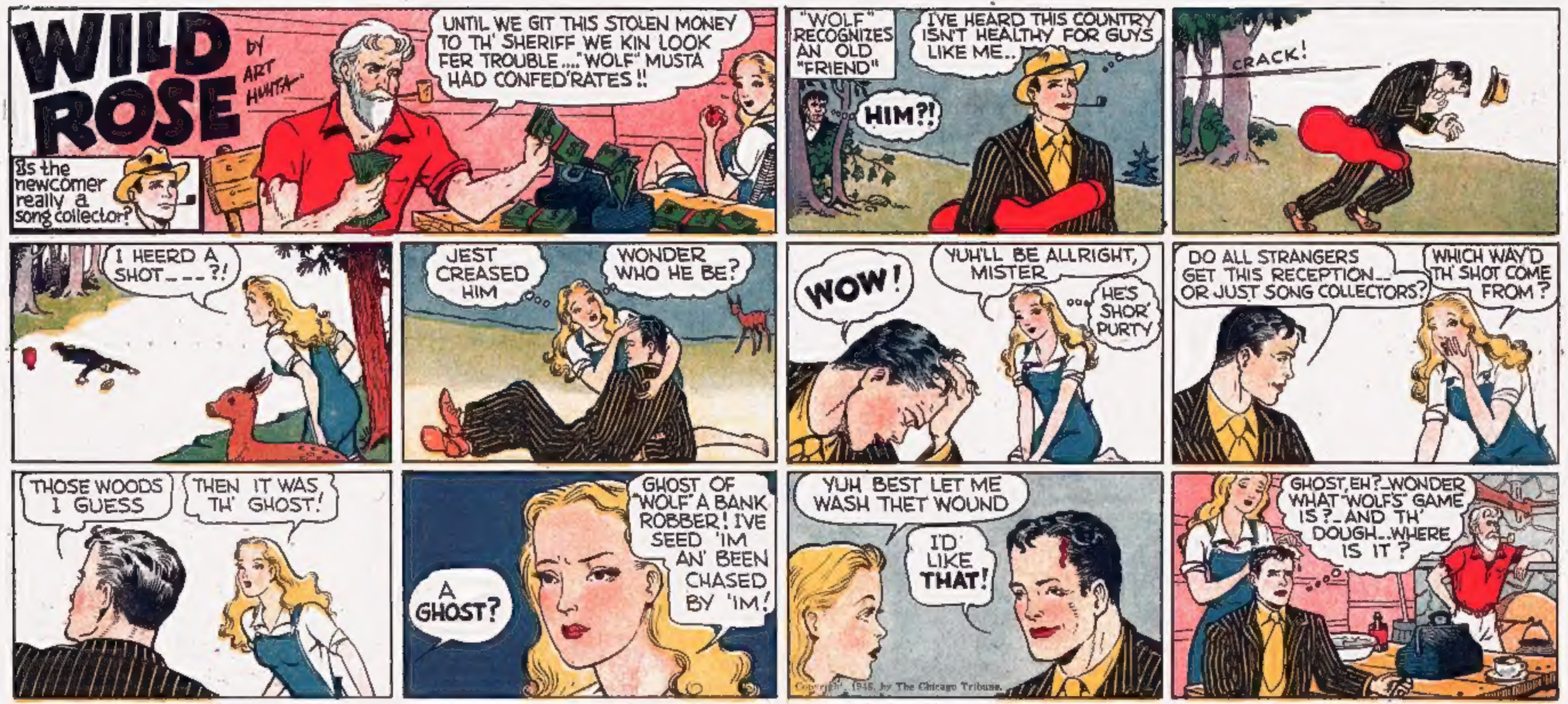
WILD ROSE
by ART HUNTA
Is the newcomer really a song collector?
UNTIL WE GIT THIS STOLEN MONEY TO TH' SHERIFF WE KIN LOOK FER TROUBLE...."WOLF" MUSTA HAD CONFED'RATES !!
"WOLF" RECOGNIZES AN OLD "FRIEND"
I'VE HEARD THIS COUNTRY ISN'T HEALTHY FOR GUYS LIKE ME..
HIM?!
CRACK!
I HEERD A SHOT---?!
JEST CREASED HIM
WONDER WHO HE BE?
WOW!
YUH'LL BE ALLRIGHT, MISTER
HE'S SHOR' PURTY
DO ALL STRANGERS GET THIS RECEPTION... OR JUST SONG COLLECTORS?
WHICH WAY'D TH' SHOT COME FROM ?
THOSE WOODS I GUESS
THEN IT WAS TH' GHOST!
A GHOST?
GHOST OF "WOLF" A BANK ROBBER! I'VE SEED 'IM AN' BEEN CHASED BY 'IM!
YUH BEST LET ME WASH THET WOUND
I'D LIKE THAT!
GHOST, EH?_WONDER WHAT "WOLFS" GAME IS?_AND TH' DOUGH...WHERE IS IT ?
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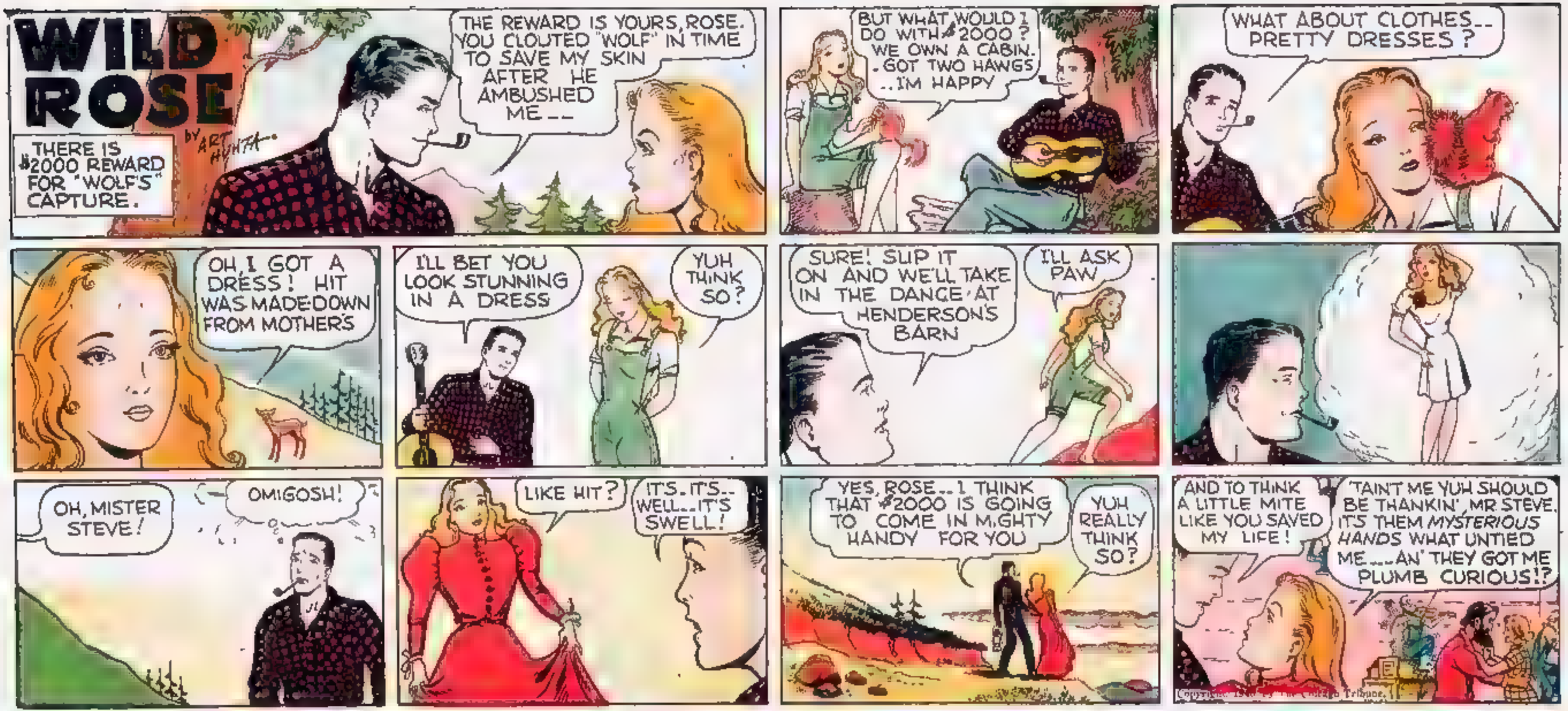
WILD ROSE
BY ART HUNTA
THERE IS $2000 REWARD FOR "WOLF'S" CAPTURE.
THE REWARD IS YOURS, ROSE. YOU CLOUTED "WOLF" IN TIME TO SAVE MY SKIN AFTER HE AMBUSHED ME --
BUT WHAT WOULD I DO WITH $2000? WE OWN A CABIN. GOT TWO HAWGS ..I'M HAPPY
WHAT ABOUT CLOTHES-- PRETTY DRESSES?
OH, I GOT A DRESS! HIT WAS MADE DOWN FROM MOTHER'S
I'LL BET YOU LOOK STUNNING IN A DRESS
YUH THINK SO?
SURE! SLIP IT ON AND WE'LL TAKE IN THE DANCE AT HENDERSON'S BARN
I'LL ASK PAW
OH, MISTER STEVE!
OMIGOSH!
LIKE HIT?
IT'S. IT'S-- WELL...IT'S SWELL!
YES, ROSE.. I THINK THAT $2000 IS GOING TO COME IN MIGHTY HANDY FOR YOU
YUH REALLY THINK SO?
AND TO THINK A LITTLE MITE LIKE YOU SAVED MY LIFE!
'TAINT ME YUH SHOULD BE THANKIN', MR STEVE. IT'S THEM MYSTERIOUS HANDS WHAT UNTIED ME....AN' THEY GOT ME PLUMB CURIOUS!?
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WILD ROSE

FREDDIE ROVER, A "VERY CLOSE" FRIEND OF ROSE'S SHOWS UP UNEXPECTEDLY

BY ART HUNTER

SO THIS IS GOIN' TO BE TH' NEW TEACHER?! WAL, GIT MY BOOKS AN' CALL ME TEACHER'S PET!!

I'VE LOST HIM TO A PURTY FACE!

I HATE THET FREDDIE ROVER!

THAR'S WILD ROSE NAOW

IT'S ALL HER FAULT

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WAL, I HOPE YORE SATISFIED! YORE RESPONSIBLE FER ALL TH' MENFOLK GOIN' LOCO

SMATTER WITH HER, JEDGE?

I ONLY AIMED TO HELP TH' COMMUNITY!

HUH!

GENERAL STORE GOSSIP

GROWED MEN AGOIN' TO SCHOOL! NEVER HEERD O' SETCH FOOLISHMENT!

IT'S ACCOUNT O' TH' NEW TEE-CHUR WHO'S A-COMIN' HYAR

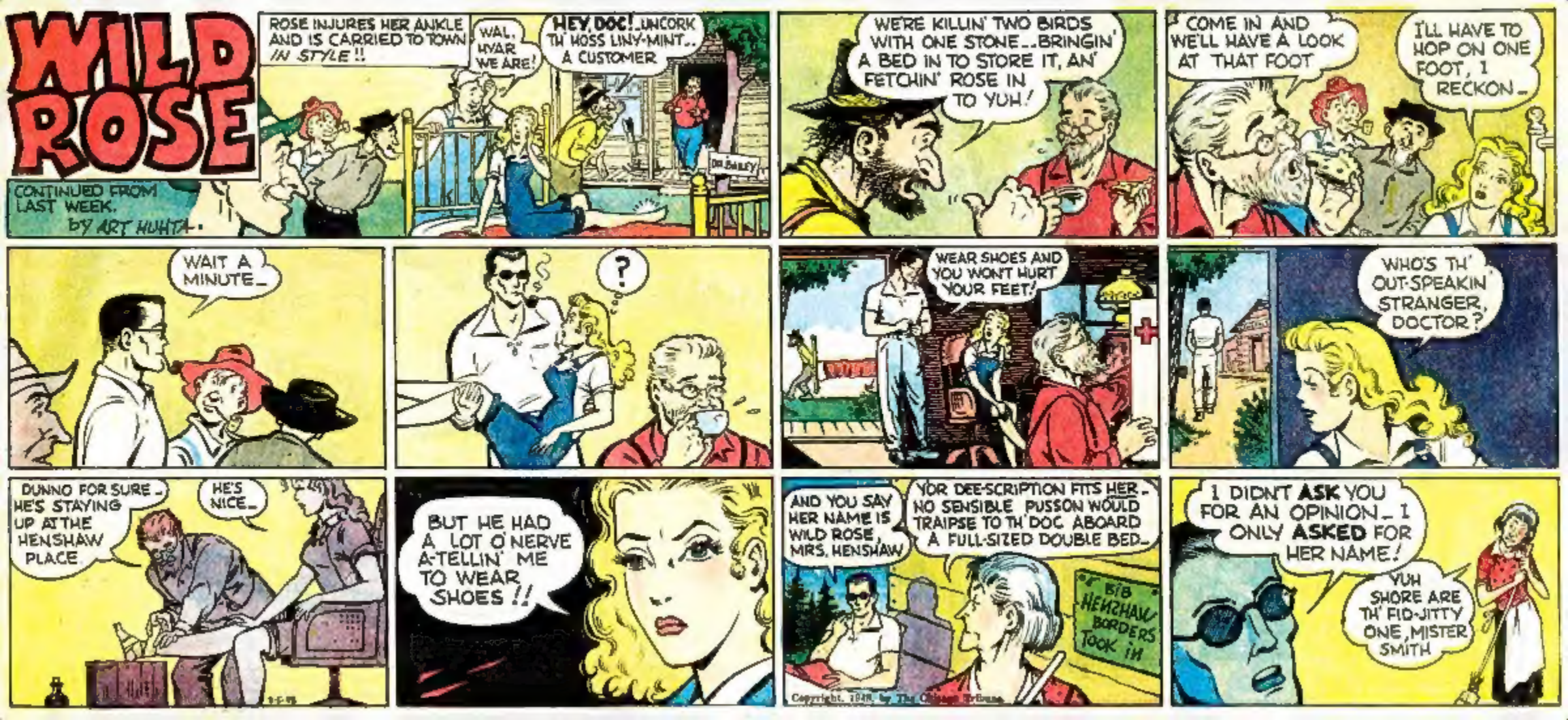
SAY-Y! WASN'T YUH AN' ROSE KINDA THICK AFORE YUH WENT AWAY?

KID STUFF!

LOOKIT THET IDJET ZEB BOGGS A-GITTIN' DANDIED UP--

NOPE! DON'T WANT A COLLAR--IT'D HIDE TH' PART CIRCLIN' TH' NECK!

WAL, I JEST **HAD** TO BUILD A SCHOOL --LOST MY BOY FRIEND AN' TH' WIMMIN-FOLKS TREAT ME LIKE SMALL POX!


WILD ROSE
CONTINUED FROM LAST WEEK.
by ART HUHTA.
ROSE INJURES HER ANKLE AND IS CARRIED TO TOWN IN STYLE!!
WAL, HYAR WE ARE!
HEY, DOC!..UNCORK TH' HOSS LINY-MINT.. A CUSTOMER
DR. BAILEY
WE'RE KILLIN' TWO BIRDS WITH ONE STONE...BRINGIN' A BED IN TO STORE IT, AN' FETCHIN' ROSE IN TO YUH!
COME IN AND WE'LL HAVE A LOOK AT THAT FOOT
I'LL HAVE TO HOP ON ONE FOOT, I RECKON.
WAIT A MINUTE..
?
WEAR SHOES AND YOU WON'T HURT YOUR FEET!
WHO'S TH' OUT-SPEAKIN STRANGER, DOCTOR?
DUNNO FOR SURE.. HE'S STAYING UP AT THE HENSHAW PLACE
HE'S NICE..
BUT HE HAD A LOT O' NERVE A-TELLIN' ME TO WEAR SHOES!!
AND YOU SAY HER NAME IS WILD ROSE, MRS. HENSHAW
YOR DEE-SCRIPTION FITS HER.. NO SENSIBLE PUSSON WOULD TRAIPSE TO TH' DOC ABOARD A FULL-SIZED DOUBLE BED..
BIB HENSHAW BORDERS TOOK IN
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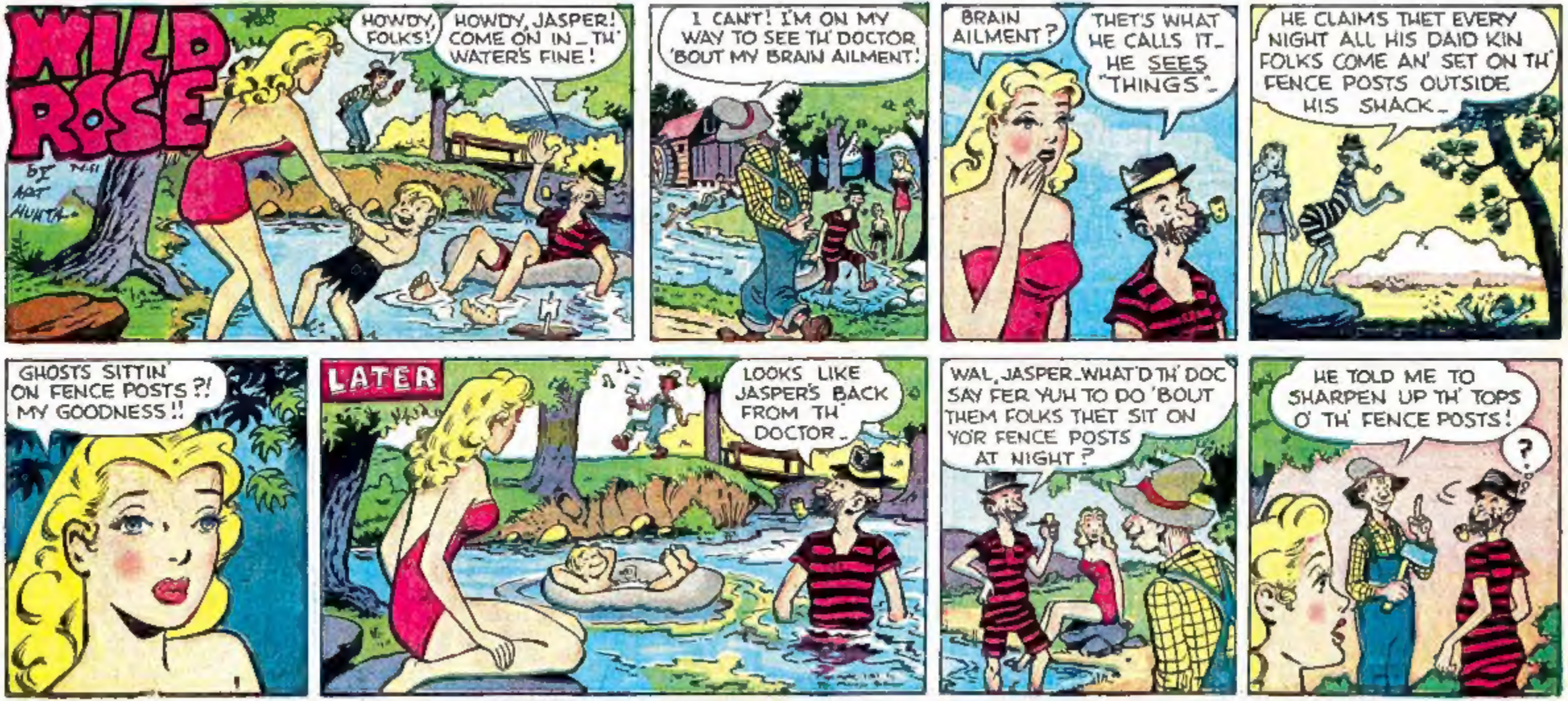
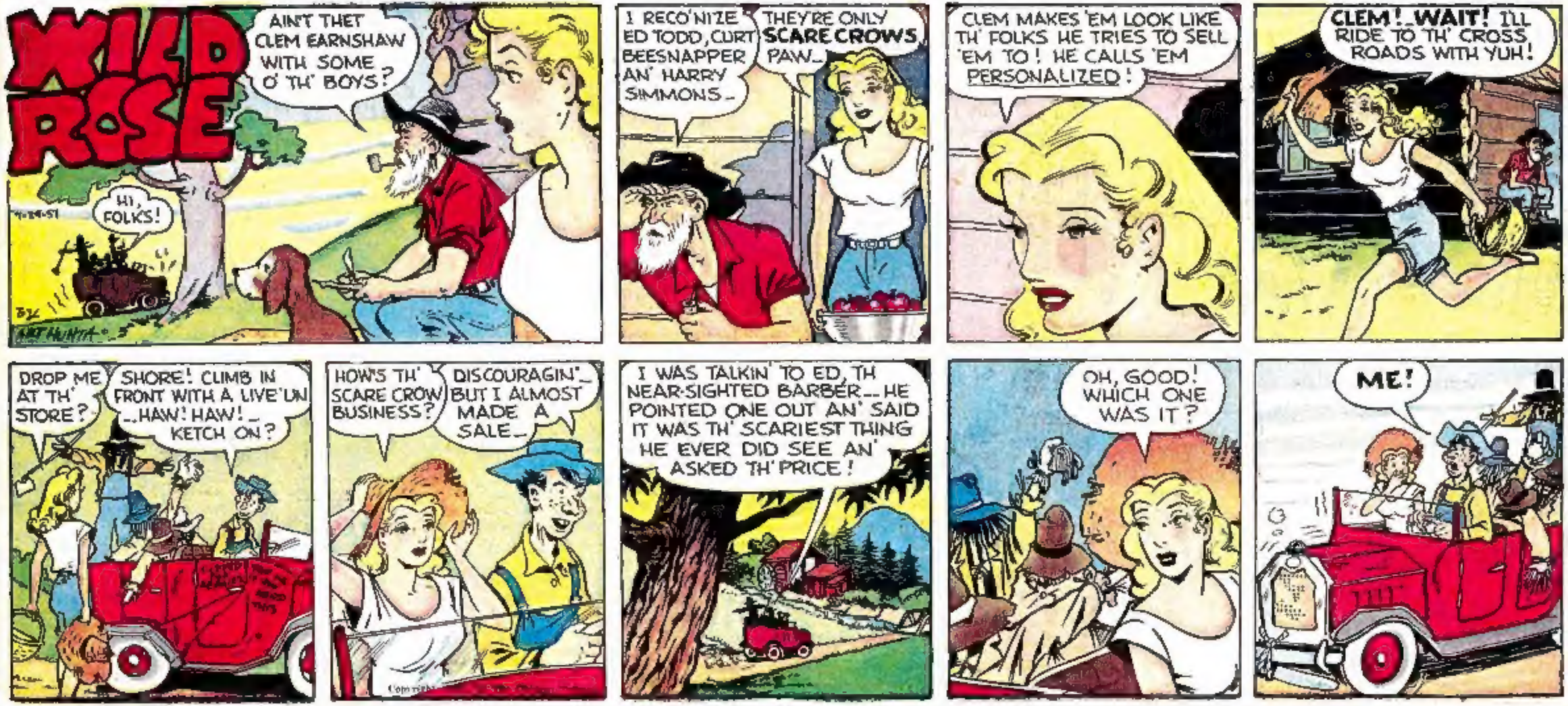
I DIDN'T ASK YOU FOR AN OPINION.. I ONLY ASKED FOR HER NAME!
YUH SHORE ARE TH' FID-JITTY ONE, MISTER SMITH


WILD ROSE
BY MEL HUNTA
HOWDY, FOLKS!
HOWDY, JASPER! COME ON IN_TH' WATER'S FINE!
I CAN'T! I'M ON MY WAY TO SEE TH' DOCTOR 'BOUT MY BRAIN AILMENT!
BRAIN AILMENT?
THET'S WHAT HE CALLS IT_ HE SEES "THINGS"_
HE CLAIMS THET EVERY NIGHT ALL HIS DAID KIN FOLKS COME AN' SET ON TH' FENCE POSTS OUTSIDE HIS SHACK_
GHOSTS SITTIN' ON FENCE POSTS?! MY GOODNESS!!
LATER
LOOKS LIKE JASPER'S BACK FROM TH' DOCTOR_
WAL, JASPER_WHAT'D TH' DOC SAY FER YUH TO DO 'BOUT THEM FOLKS THET SIT ON YO'R FENCE POSTS AT NIGHT?
HE TOLD ME TO SHARPEN UP TH' TOPS O' TH' FENCE POSTS!
?


WILD ROSE
AIN'T THET CLEM EARNSHAW WITH SOME O' TH' BOYS?
HI, FOLKS!
I RECO'NIZE ED TODD, CURT BEESNAPPER AN' HARRY SIMMONS_
THEY'RE ONLY SCARE CROWS PAW_
CLEM MAKES 'EM LOOK LIKE TH' FOLKS HE TRIES TO SELL 'EM TO! HE CALLS 'EM PERSONALIZED!
CLEM!_WAIT! I'LL RIDE TO TH' CROSS ROADS WITH YUH!
DROP ME AT TH' STORE?
SHORE! CLIMB IN FRONT WITH A LIVE'UN _HAW! HAW!_ KETCH ON?
HOW'S TH' SCARE CROW BUSINESS?
DISCOURAGIN'_ BUT I ALMOST MADE A SALE_
I WAS TALKIN' TO ED, TH NEAR-SIGHTED BARBER_HE POINTED ONE OUT AN' SAID IT WAS TH' SCARIEST THING HE EVER DID SEE AN' ASKED TH' PRICE!
OH, GOOD! WHICH ONE WAS IT?
ME!